

DNREC Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police Blotter: Nov. 26-Dec. 2

Reminder for the week: Waterfowl hunters should check gear for prohibited lead shot, ensure boats are safety and weather ready

DOVER – To achieve public compliance with laws and regulations through education and enforcement actions that help conserve Delaware's fish and wildlife resources and ensure safe boating and public safety, Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police officers between Nov. 26-Dec. 2 made 1,235 contacts with hunters, anglers, boaters, and the general public, issuing 21 citations. Officers responded to 49 complaints regarding possible violations of laws and regulations or requests to assist the public. An increased Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police presence continued at the C&D Canal Conservation Area and Michael N. Castle Trail.

Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police in the Community

Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police officers presented information on the role of Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police officers, safe hunting, hunting laws, and what to expect when being checked by an officer while hunting during Hunter Education classes held at the Little Creek Hunter Education Training Center.

Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police Actions

Citations issued by category, with the number of charges in parentheses, included:

Wildlife Conservation: Possess or transport an unlawfully taken antlered deer (1).

Public Safety: Possession of a firearm or ammunition by a person prohibited (7) and possession of drug paraphernalia – not marijuana related (2).

Other: Trespassing after hours on a state wildlife area (10)* and destruction of state property (1)*.

**Includes citation(s) issued at the C&D Canal Conservation Area.*

DNREC's Division of Fish & Wildlife recognizes and thanks the majority of anglers, hunters, and boaters who comply with and support Delaware's fishing, hunting, and boating laws and regulations. Citizens are encouraged to report fish, wildlife, and boating violations to the Delaware Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police by calling 302-739-4580. Wildlife violations may also be reported anonymously to Operation Game Theft by calling 800-292-3030 or online at <http://de.gov/ogt>.

Are you AWARE?

With the last 2018 regular duck hunting season split starting Dec. 7 and other waterfowl hunting seasons still open or opening soon, Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police remind waterfowl hunters to check their hunting gear bags, coats, boats, and any other gear to make sure they are not carrying any lead shot or other lead ammunition.

Non-toxic shot, as approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is required for all waterfowl hunting within the State of Delaware. There are no exceptions. For a list of currently approved non-toxic shot types visit <http://flyways.us/faq/what-type-shot-approved-non-toxic-us>.

Also, if you are waterfowl hunting using a boat, please ensure that you have all the required safety equipment on board and cold weather gear and provisions available.

For more information on waterfowl hunting and boating safety requirements in Delaware, click on [2018-2019 Delaware Hunting and Trapping Guide](#).

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Contact: Sgt. Brooke Mitchell, 302-382-7167, or DNREC Fish & Wildlife Natural Resources Police, 302-739-9913